

REMARKS

Claims 2, 3 and 8-15 were withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected species. It is noted that these claims can be rejoined when an allowable generic or linking claim is determined. It is respectfully submitted that as a result of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, such an allowable generic or linking claim is now present.

The Examiner's helpful suggestions with respect to corrections to the specification are greatly appreciated. For the most part, those corrections have been made as suggested. In some instances, the suggestions have not been adopted where they were believed to be unnecessary or inappropriate. For instance, applicants consider the non-elected species to be a part of the invention and therefore should be included in the Summary even if the Examiner, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the PTO, will not permit claims to the non-elected species in this application.

The objection to the drawings is respectfully traversed. Where there is a series of drawings (A, B, C, etc.) it is respectfully submitted unnecessary to label each and every element in each and every drawing, particularly in view of the statement that consistent element descriptions are being used throughout the specification and drawings added to the application.. Those skilled in the art will fully understand from the description what each element shown in the drawings represents. Figure 10D and E in the undersigned's files shows the reference label --3b-- as present. In Figure 12, the language employed is respectfully submitted to be appropriate.

Withdrawal of all of the objections is respectfully solicited.

The claims have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. The language now employed makes the relationship of the various parts more clear. In addition, the Examiner's suggestions as to language have been adopted. In light of the forgoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection based on 35 U.S.C. 112 can now be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 4-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over Uchimura in view of Saitoh. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

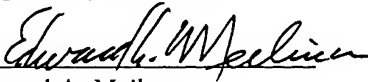
It is not necessary to discuss these references in great detail since there is a basic difference which, standing alone, is sufficient to cause withdrawal of the rejection. As it is apparent in the drawings of Saitoh, each waveguide has two protruding portions on opposed surfaces. This structure allows the line described in the reference to function as a non-radiative dielectric waveguide. Any combination of Uchimura and Saitoh would, therefore, require a structure in which there are two protruding portions on opposite surfaces and a plurality of through holes arrayed along the protruding portions. That is not the present invention nor is the claimed structure suggested.

In addition, the sides of the protruding portion in the present invention are used as places in which a current defuses to reduce a transmission loss. There is no suggestion about a current flowing on the sides of the protruding portions of Saitoh and likewise, Uchimura does not contain such a suggestion.

In light of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections should be withdrawn and this application is now in condition to be allowed. Accordingly, the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Dated: November 19, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Edward A. Meilman

Registration No.: 24,735

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &
OSHINSKY LLP

1177 Avenue of the Americas

41st Floor

New York, New York 10036-2714

(212) 835-1400

Attorney for Applicant